

Jeffrey T. Gasser
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and Chief Nuclear Officer

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September 6, 2005

Docket Nos.: 50-321 50-348 50-424
50-366 50-364 50-425

NL-05-1566

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

ATTN: Robert A. Gramm, Team Leader
B.5.b Review Team – LPM, NRR

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Request for Additional Time to Respond to RAIs on B.5.b

Dear Mr. Gramm:

By letter dated August 25, 2005, the NRC requested that Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) provide written responses to Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) on the SNC response to the issuance of the guidance document for the Order for Interim Safeguards and Security Compensatory Measures issued in January 2002 by September 21, 2005 for the nuclear plants which it operates. SNC personnel provided verbal responses to many of these questions on an August 22, 2005 teleconference at your request. Based on the activities since that teleconference including an NRC/FEMA evaluated emergency planning (EP) exercise, a separate EP drill, support for the Temporary Instruction (TI) Inspections on B.5.b in the next three weeks at all three plants and a scheduled EP inspection at one of our plants, SNC requests an additional 30 days beyond September 21, 2005 to respond to this request.

As an important point of reference, SNC believes that it has already provided the necessary information from which a Safety Evaluation can be written. The information to be provided in response to the RAIs referenced should not constitute further NRC commitments but should be for information purposes only. The written responses to be provided to many of these RAIs will be statements of fact, over which SNC has limited, if any, control.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey T. Gasser", written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey T. Gasser

JTG/JMG

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. L. M. Stinson, Vice President – Plant Farley
Mr. H. L. Sumner, Jr., Vice President – Plant Hatch
Mr. D. E. Grissette, Vice President – Plant Vogtle
Mr. J. R. Johnson, General Manager – Plant Farley
Mr. G. R. Frederick, General Manager – Plant Hatch
Mr. T. E. Tynan, General Manager – Plant Vogtle
RType: CFA04.054; CHA02.004; CVC7000; LC# 14329

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Dr. W. D. Travers, Regional Administrator
Mr. R. E. Martin, NRR Project Manager – Farley
Mr. C. Gratton, NRR Project Manager – Hatch
Mr. C. Gratton, NRR Project Manager – Vogtle
Mr. C. A. Patterson, Senior Resident Inspector – Farley
Mr. D. S. Simpkins, Senior Resident Inspector – Hatch
Mr. G. J. McCoy, Senior Resident Inspector – Vogtle